

privilege of knowing Bud and, as was the case for many, he became my friend.

Bud Doggett was born in Washington, returned here after World War II, and never left. He loved this city and worked tirelessly to help it and its residents. While building a significant corporate empire based on parking, real estate and banking, Bud kept an eye and a hand on everything political and important that shaped Washington over the past 50 years. Bud was "old school," literally smoking cigars in the back room. He shunned publicity and attention, liked to refer to himself as a parking attendant, but Bud was the D.C. power broker who always had the best interest of the city at heart.

Bud spearheaded diversity in Washington's business community in the early 1960s when segregation was still pervasive if more quiet. He walked the streets with Mayor Washington to calm the turmoil after Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination, and played a decisive role in the election of most District leaders since Home Rule and the economic development that transformed a sleepy southern town to a world-class city.

With the strong, paternal hand came a softer heart. Bud's philanthropic efforts are legendary, anchored by HEROES, a largely anonymous group he founded in 1964 that helps the families of law enforcement and firefighters in the region who die in the line of duty. There are literally hundreds of families who have had their mortgages paid, their children sent to college, and their lives re-established because Bud and HEROES never forgot their loved one's sacrifice and were always there to help.

Bud was the last of his breed for Washington. There's no one with the same reach, respect, and authority to single-handedly keep the city on track. It's up to a new batch of political, business, and civic leaders to see if collectively they can provide the stability, direction and discipline that Bud did. It's a very tough act to follow.

TRIBUTE TO BRANDON AND TONY SILVERIA IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR DEDICATION TO CURBING UNDERAGE DRINKING IN OUR COUNTRY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brandon Silveria and his father, Tony Silveria, two courageous individuals who have turned a personal tragedy into a message of hope and possibility for teenagers and their families across the country.

On March 1, 1987, Brandon Silveria had the world at his fingertips. He was a popular high school athlete in Los Gatos, California. He and his friends had dreams of making the Olympic rowing team and attending Boston College on rowing scholarships.

But on that day, Brandon's dreams were shattered by one bad decision. Brandon and his friends went to a party and drank alcohol. Seventeen-year-old Brandon drove everyone home. After he dropped his best friend off, Brandon continued the short drive to his house. He never made it. Brandon crashed his car into a tree and barely survived.

Brandon's parents, Tony and Shirley Silveria, rushed to the hospital to be by Brandon's side and faced the nightmare of almost losing their son to an underage drinking and driving crash. Brandon spent 3 months in a coma followed by 3 years in rehabilitation. Brandon had to relearn everything. Walking, talking and eating were skills he had to regain. He worked hard to recover and his family stood by his side and nursed him back to health.

Today, Brandon and Tony travel the country for The Century Council, a not-for-profit organization funded by distillers to fight drunk driving and underage drinking. Over the last 20 years they have spoken to over 2 million students in all 50 states across the nation—from Maine to California—and their story has been told on "Rescue911," NBC's "TODAY Show," and the Discovery Channel's "HEALTHWATCH." Their message focuses on encouraging teens to make the right choices, resist peer pressure, and realize the trauma created by this kind of personal tragedy.

I first met the Silverias in the fall of 2007 when The Brandon Tells His Story program was featured at one of the high schools in my district. I was so moved by their presentation that I have worked with The Century Council to bring this compelling message to the teenagers and parents in two other high schools in my district.

Brandon walks and talks with great difficulty but that doesn't prevent him from delivering a forceful message to teens about the dangers and consequences of drinking and driving. He has permanent health problems as a result of a traumatic brain injury and must travel the country with his father. Tony has his own program for parents called Tony's Tips where he discusses the impact Brandon's crash had on his family and about the importance of talking to your kids about underage drinking. Many families unravel emotionally or financially in the face of a tragedy like Brandon's. Despite this often sad reality, the Silverias managed to pull together and make it their mission to deliver a lifesaving message to teenagers and families across the country.

Madam Speaker, because of the Silverias' mission to share their story, more than 2 million students have seen firsthand the tragic consequences of underage drinking and driving. I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Brandon and Tony for their courage and commitment to saving the lives of our nation's children, and in extending to them our best wishes for continued success in exemplifying for all us what it means to overcome tragedy and work to make a difference.

IN HONOR OF RABBI PETER H. GRUMBACHER

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher for his retirement in June 2009 after more than thirty years of service at Congregation Beth Emeth and throughout the Delaware community.

Rabbi Grumbacher moved from New York City to Wilmington upon his ordination from

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. He became an Assistant Rabbi and Director of Education at Congregation Beth Emeth and after several years of service to the Jewish faith and the community, he was named Senior Rabbi in 1982. Constantly pursuing ways to better serve our community, the Rabbi earned his Masters of Social Work from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work of Yeshiva University.

Along with his strong emphasis on education, Rabbi Grumbacher also served on a variety of local boards, including as the chairperson of the State Human Relations Commission, chairperson of the Delaware Interfaith Coalition of Aging, and as the senior co-chair of the National Conference of Christians and Jews (now the National Conference for Community and Justice). Locally, the Rabbi served as a chaplain for Jewish patients for 27 years. On a national level, Rabbi Grumbacher serves on the National Commission for Rabbinic and Congressional Relations while also previously serving as President of the Mid-Atlantic Region Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Once again, I commend Rabbi Peter Grumbacher's achievements and over three decades as leader of Congregation Beth Emeth. His remarkable commitment to his congregation, our state, and our nation speaks volumes about his character, integrity, and selflessness. I am very fortunate to feel his positive impact in the community where my own family and friends reside, and I trust that this will still be so. I wish Rabbi Grumbacher the very best in his well-deserved retirement and am confident he will find happiness and success in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAIRFAX CABLE ACCESS CORPORATION (FAIRFAX PUBLIC ACCESS)

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fairfax Cable Access Corporation and to celebrate their 25 years of service to the community.

As a provider of public access television and radio programming, Fairfax Cable Access Corporation stands as an exceptional example of a nonprofit organization working closely with the community for mutual benefit. In 1984, Fairfax Public Access broadcast its very first program. From these humble beginnings, airing just a few hours each week, Fairfax Cable Access Corporation has grown into one of the larger organizations of its type in the country. Fairfax Public Access now operates two cable television channels and one cable radio channel. In 2008, Fairfax Public Access employed 20 full time staff members and aired 5,327 hours of programming.

This remarkable growth has been matched by the successes of Fairfax Cable Access Corporation in reaching out to our diverse community in Fairfax County. The programming is representative of the county's diverse ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds. With programs in 14 different languages, Fairfax Cable Access Corporation is able to inform, educate and entertain peoples from around the world who call Fairfax home.